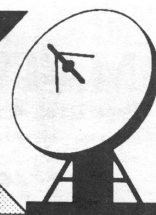


MATWATCH

16 Robin Hood Lane Jackson TN 38305

Hotline - 901-664-9244



VOL. 4, NO. 45

NOV. 11-17



Prime Time Slides To Worst Rating

STAMFORD CT----USA Network's WWF PRIME TIME WRESTLING, reeling from its worst fall ratings average ever in September and October, scored its lowest-ever nighttime rating in its Nov. 4 episode.

PTW, which has never scored below a 2.1 in its seven-year history on USA, fell to a 1.9 rating and 2.7 per cent share of audience on a night when lesser performers did guest shots.

On a week handily won by WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING in the ratings, PTW only nosed out WCW's Saturday morning POWER HOUR by 0.2 to avoid last place in the Nielsen cable race (see RATINGS RAP, page 6).

"Havoc" Posts Worst Ever Buy-Rate

ATLANTA---Differences reign over final totals but pay-cable executives estimate WCW's HALLOWEEN HAVOC projects to an 0.8 percent buy-rate, lowest-ever for a WCW pay show.

WCW officials are claiming a 1.2 but sources close to Request TV say after repeat showings, the show will factor out to an 0.8 or approximately 130,000 subscribers.

If those numbers hold, HAVOC will gross approximately \$2.6 million.

Pistols Win U.S. Belts in Gainesville

GAINESVILLE GA---The Young Pistols (Steve Armstrong and Tracy Smothers) defeated the Patriots

(Continued on Page 2)

A Time to Reflect

HEROES: WHAT DO WE TELL THE KIDS?

This isn't a column about belts or angles or lawsuits. It isn't about title switches or promotion-bolting. It really isn't about wrestling. It's about life.

In our newsroom at WBBJ-TV Thursday afternoon, we experienced one of those moments which in years ahead we'll be asked, "Where were you when this happened?" For any of us who are conventional sports fans, the story of Magic Johnson contracting the HIV virus is a clock-stopper. As I said in a commentary on that evening's news: "Celebrities have died of AIDS. Rock Hudson. Liberace. But the impact has been more with an older peer group. But this is Magic Johnson---to young basketball fans what Hulk Hogan is to young wrestling fans."

Dave Meltzer and I discussed Saturday how both of us have been asked by readers, "What do you think would happen if what happened to Magic Johnson happened to Hulk Hogan or Ric Flair?" I think the critical question is: have wrestlers, or mat company owners, considered what kind of time bombs they are juggling? Thursday evening's NIGHTLINE addressed how Johnson likely contracted the virus through multiple heterosexual partners. Former New York Knicks star Walt Frazier told Ted Koppel of the pressures and temptations NBA stars have faced for years from fans interested in more than just a pat on the back for a win.

As a six-year veteran of wrestling has told me, "It's pretty much a standard procedure for a number of guys. You (bleep) on the road. No, they don't usually consider the consequences." Former CWF owner David Woods told me two years ago he stayed scared the entire two years he was in business of a sex or drug scandal. In his Montgomery office, Woods said: "I pretty much knew what was going on with a lot of the guys but I didn't want to know. For a lot of the ones who had personal problems, they revolved around drugs or sex."

The Magic Johnson story should hit every athlete in America over the head like a sledgehammer. And every child who idolizes an athlete. Wrestling is yet to be publicly touched by the AIDS virus, never mind unfounded rumors published months ago in another bulletin. But with steroid needles shooting in some circles like three-point field goals, and flamboyant lifestyles pervading a feeling of invincibility, a sense of inevitability exists that a major star will fall victim. If not AIDS, to some steroid-related health failure. The page 2 story of Ed Gantner, as told by his mother in Florida last week, should be enough. But Gantner was not a large enough star to make time stand still---except for Mary Lou Gantner and Ed's sister, who donated a kidney in a futile effort to keep him alive after years of drug abuse.

(Continued on Page 2)



Steve

Beverly

MATWATCH

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Pistols Capture WCW U.S. Belts

(Continued from Page 1)

(Todd Champion and Curtis Thompson) to win the WCW U.S. tag team title Tuesday night here at syndicated TV tapings.

In the second of two matches between the teams on the night, the newly heel-turned Pistols defeated the Patriots to avenge an earlier dark match loss.

The Belt: 21 Days To Pay The Price

CHARLOTTE NC----It's now down to a cost of \$50,200.

A scheduled Thursday hearing over ownership of the Ric Flair "real" world championship title belt was canceled and the ball is now in the court of World Championship Wrestling, Inc., or the National Wrestling Alliance.

In an out-of-court agreement, WCW or the NWA consortium has until Nov. 27 to pay Flair \$50,200 for the belt, which has been used as part of his entry angle into the WWF. Flair did not come to WWF rings with the old NWA belt in the last week.

A Charlotte judge has thrown out a claim by WCW that Flair has no right to call himself a "world champion." Insiders indicated the WWF may have debuted a replica of the belt at Monday night tapings in Utica NY.

FINAL MATWATCH RATES

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STEVE BEVERLY

(Continued from Page 1)

My question is: what do we tell the kids? The ones who are the most emotionally fragile. The ones who look at a Magic Johnson and see larger-than-life. The ones who see their wrestling favorites as comic book heroes who are invincible. The ones not mature enough to realize life is finite.

I applaud the courage of Magic Johnson. I salute his desire to, as he says, "live a long life," and be a fighter. He'll need to be as tough as he has been on the court. I appreciate his sincerity in wanting to be a spokesman about HIV and for safe sex. However, as unrealistic as many in today's society believe it to be, I wonder who's going to be the one to advocate youth to control their hormones until they're mature enough to handle a monogamous relationship. As controversial as this view is in modern times, when we advocate safe sex (and for those who participate, they better be safe) we are encouraging sex, period, for young people who are predominantly far too immature to handle the responsibility. And I wonder when more of our sports or sports-entertainment heroes are going to take the lead in setting this kind of example *before* disaster strikes and can sincerely live the example as well as speak it.

Pro basketball stars, wrestlers, no athletes ask to be placed in the proverbial post of "role model." But that is the price of success. We have a generation of young people we may be killing if we don't have more heroism which goes beyond the final score or the last pinfall. I hope we don't have to have a Magic Johnson story in wrestling to awaken the current generation of adolescents of the fatalistic dangers to which they can daily find all too easy to succumb.

Mary Lou Gantner Testifies

A TALE OF TRAGEDY

TALLAHASSEE FL---Only a mother could have told a story with the emotion of Mary Lou Gantner. Whether Florida legislators grasped its impact may only be told at the point of a lobbyist's arm-twist.

Gantner related the sordid tale of how her son, former Florida heavyweight champion Ed (The Bull) Gantner, destroyed his life from steroids and other drugs during hearings on regulation of pro wrestling before the Florida House Committee on Regulated Industries last Tuesday.

WRESTLING OBSERVER editor Dave Meltzer, who testified before the lawmakers, told MATWATCH: "The hearings concentrated a lot more on things like false advertising and no-shows but you couldn't listen to Mary Lou's story and not realize what steroids can do to a life. She wanted to tell this same story at Ed's high school but the coaches prevented it. They were the same coaches who apparently were there when Ed was in school and started using steroids." Gantner committed suicide last New Year's Eve at the age of 30 after losing a kidney and suffering from severe depression from the apparent effect of steroids.

Ms. Gantner painted a picture of a 185-pound son, too small for a college football scholarship, who bulked up to an eventual 293 in wrestling. He eventually played for Tennessee and Central Florida after starting on steroids at 16. He later played with the U.S. Football League, where Larry Pfohl (Lex Luger) and Ron Simmons were teammates.

Meltzer said Ms. Gantner was visibly moved as she told how her son's wrestling career led him to expand his use of hormones. "He used to tell me how he and some of his friends went around making noises like monkeys because they were using monkey hormones to gain weight," Ms. Gantner told the committee.

The lawmakers learned how Gantner was on the verge of a major push in 1987 when promoter Jim Crockett bought out Championship Wrestling from Florida, Inc. But Ed's health began to deteriorate. "By 1986, he had only 20 per cent of his normal kidney functions," said Ms. Gantner. Eventually, a sister would donate a kidney in an effort to save Ed's life. But Gantner also had steroid-related heart problems.

(Continued on Page 6)

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IDIOTS

Nov. 4-10

(SOUTH ATLANTIC) - [2 Wks.

Agol]: {OPEN} Kevin (The Truth) Casey announces he'll manage Nazi Stormtroopers; Carlos Colon d. Cruel Connection I; Denny Brown d. Cruel Connection II but Cruel I runs in after & double DDTs Brown. Cruel I unmasks as Gary Royal; Chris Chavis d. Bart Crawford; (SAPW TAG TITLE) Tommy Angel/Tommy Seabolt d. Stormtroopers to win belts. 'Troopers double on Seabolt after but Angel saves. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[Last Week]: 'Troopers d. Nicky Hawks/Mike Maverick; (WWC) Ricky Santana d. Masked Dragon; Chavis d. Tyrone Knox; Red Raider d. Royd. Raider unmasks as Brown; (WWC) Ray Gonzalez d. El Commandante; (WWC) Wendell Cooley/Frankie Lancaster d. Tito Carreon/Billy Strong; Colon d. Ivan Koloff by DQ when Manny Fernandez runs in. DRAW.

(SUNCOAST PRO) - Entire show: Penelope Paradise d. Debbie Malenko by DQ & show ends w. two brawling all over building. NO RATING.

(WCW/SYN) - [WCW PRO]: Sting d. Doug Sommers; Johnny B. Badd d. Rick Hardrock; (6-MAN) Dustin Rhodes/Big Josh/Tom Zenk d. Mark Kyle/Joe Cazana/Sgt. Buddy Lee Parker; (WNN) Gordon Solie w. replay of Rick Steiner pinning Lex Luger; Arachnabrad d. Thomas Rich; (VIDEO) Van Hammer; Enforcers d. Barry Windham/Ron Simmons when Arn creams Barry in face w. belt. DRAW.
[WORLD WIDE]: Arachnabrad d. Parker; Steiner d. Jim Davis; (WCW TV TITLE) Steve Austin d. Jimmy Garvin; (WNN) Same as PRO; Windham/Rhodes d. Rip Rogers/Jim Boss; (SUBMIT OR SURRENDER) Sting d. Cactus Jack. POWERSLAM...last match alone was tremendous.

(WWF/USA) - [PRIME TIME]: Natural Disasters d. Rockers when John Tenta squashes Sean Michaels as Marty Jannetty chases Jimmy Hart. Sean waves off stretcher; Big Bossman d. Bruce Mitchell; (UPDATE) Flair-Piper saga; (GUEST) Tito Santana w. clips from Mexico; Santana d. Pat Tanaka; Big Bully Busick d. Brooklyn Brawler when Bruno trips up Lombardi; (FEATURE) Sgt. Slaughter pleads for country again; (GUESTS) Gen. Adnan/Col. Mustafa, who break ranks w. Sarge; Sid Justice d. Mustafa & piledrives Adnan; (GUESTS) Mountie/Jimmy Hart; (I-C TITLE) Bret Hart vs. Mountie. Rougeau never gets in ring, Jimmy Hart splashes Bret w. water, Mountie cattleprods Bret; (BARBER SHOP) Brutus Beefcake w. Hulk Hogan; (GUEST) Davey Boy Smith w. clip winning battle royal in Royal Albert Hall in England; Smith d. Warlord by countout & shoulderbreakers Slick; (SURVIVOR SERIES REPORT); (GUEST) Genichiro Tenryu, who dumps Chinese fast-food carton on Bobby Heenan's head; Virgil d. Barry Hardy; Berzerker d. Bob Smedley by countout; (FINALE) Santana's "bull" gores Heenan. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(LPWA) - Nasty Linda d. Babyface Nellie; Susan Sexton d. Diane Von Hoffman; Reggie Bennett d. Candi Divine; Bad, Black & Beautiful d. Terri Power/Iona Starr; Malaya Hosaka d. Nasty Cat; Bambi d. Flame. RESTHOLD.

(GLOBAL/SYN) - [MAJOR LEAGUE]: {OPEN} Marcos Villas fires Max Andrews as GWF commissioner; Maulers d. Ben Jordan/Terry Daniels; Chaz/Terry Garvin d. Davis Bros.; Renegade Warriors d. Barry Horowitz/Ed Robinson; Rattlesnake Raitz d. Sweet Daddy Falcone; Handsome Stranger d. Sean Summers; Al Perez d. Steven Dane. DRAW.

(GLOBAL/ESPN) - [Mon.]: One-Man Gang d. Mike Stetson; Davis Bros. d. Chaz/Garvin; Gary Young d. Horowitz; Stranger d. Summers; Jeff Gay-

lord d. Falcone; Chris Walker/Steve Simpson d. Black Bart/Tug Taylor. Bart/Tug split after. RESTHOLD-PLUS.
[Tue.]: Thomas Edward Gilbert II d. Rick Garren; Sam Houston d. Horowitz; Bart d. The Outlaw; Tatum/Falcone d. Jordan/Daniels; Soultaker d. Perez when Gilbert runs in, creams Al w. TV title belt. (ANGLE) Joe Pedicino refuses to give up tape of Anthony/Andrews discussing Scotty's insertion in TV playoffs; (NEWSROOM) Joe on Randy Savage, Andrews angles. DRAW.
[Wed.]: Davis Bros. d. Jordan/Daniels; Stranger d. Horowitz; Bart d. Butch Blackheart; Patriot d. Taylor; (GWF LT. HWT. TITLE) Lightning Kid d. Garvin holding trunks & rope; Anthony d. Chaz. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[Thu.]: Gilbert d. Reno Riggins; Young/Gaylord d. Tatum/Rod Price; Anthony d. Billy Joe Travis; Maulers d. Chico & Chavo Cabello; Davis Bros. d. American Breed; Stranger d. Gilbert by DQ when Anthony runs in & the 2 double suplex Stranger. Simpson saves him from being unmasked; Dane d. Simpson holding trunks & rope. DRAW...for Anthony on color.

[Fri.]: Gaylord d. Irwin when Young trips up Bill; Renegades no contest vs. Tatum/Price; Garvin d. Falcone; Stranger d. Rip Rogers; Dane d. Chaz w. Flair rope finish; Patriot d. Bad News by DQ when Soultaker runs in; (GLOBAL TAG TITLE) Walker/Simpson d. Bad Attitude to keep belts. DRAW-PLUS.

(NEW PWTW) - [GA/1990] Mike Golden d. Bugman Michaels; (GWF) 1. Tatum d. Garren. 2. Maulers d. Young/Gaylord; (CLASSIC) Angelo Poffo d. Tony Morelli; (LPWA) Misty Blue Simmes/Allison Royal d. Heidi Lee Morgan/Comrade Orga; (INTL/WWC) Carlos Colon d. Boris Zhukov; (POINT/COUNTERPOINT) Scott Hudson/Steven DeTruth debate HALLOWEEN HAVOC, Eric Embry. DRAW.

(AWA: LOOKING BACK) - [1981] Sheik Adnan al-Kaissie d. Buck Zumhofe; [1981] Greg Gagne d. Bobby Duncum; [HANDICAP/1983] Hulk Hogan/Andre the Giant d. Jerry Blackwell/Adrian Adonis/Jesse Ventura. DRAW.

(IWCCW) - Mondo Kleen d. Dusty Wolfe; Tasmaniac d. T.D. Madison; (RUMBLE SEAT) Tony Rumble w. Honky Tonk Man/Rick Rude; (FLASHBACK) Misty Blue d. Linda Dallas; Ivan & Scott Putski d. Billion \$ Babies. RESTHOLD.

(USWA/WMC) - [SOUTHERN TITLE] Eric Embry d. Tom Prichard to regain belt; (VIDEO) Jerry Lawler/Bill Dundee in "The Legends;" Billy Joe's Super Team d. Chris Frazier/Don Kelly; Jeff Jarrett d. Scorpion when he decks Scorp w. chain; (VIDEO) Kimala from 1982; (TAPE) Nate the Rat w. three white rats says he's bringing in the Gravedigger; Doug Masters/Bart Sawyer d. Tony Anthony/Freezer Thompson. RESTHOLD.

(WCW/TBS) - [POWER HOUR]: Big Josh/Bobby Eaton d. Rich/Terrence Taylor; (REPLAY) Madusa Miceli d. Bambi; Patriots d. Superstar Bob Cook/Fred Avery; Simmons d. Doug Summers; Windham d. Lou Fabiano; Zenk d. Bill Ford; Bill Kazmaier d. Cactus by DQ when Abdullah runs in but Bill doesn't sell kendo hits & brawl goes to mild pull-apart; (MISSY DOES MAIL) Jim Ross w. Steiner; Steiner d. Boss; Sting d. Parker. RESTHOLD.

[WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP]: P.N. News d. Jim Davis; Cactus Jack d. Hardrock; (WCW MAGAZINE) Eric Bischoff on Luger-

SCALE: PINFALL - Must See.
PILEDRIIVER - Excellent.
POWERSLAM - Good. DRAW - Average. RESTHOLD - Fair.
BOMB - Poor. PLUS - Midscale.

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Steiner, Cactus Jack; Hammer d. John Peterson; Zenk d. Parker; Badd d. Mike Graham by DQ when Mike caught using chair J.B. brought in, despite Brian Pillman's protests. J.B. gets chair & bashes both Mike/Brian; Arachnabrad d. The Medic; (6-MAN) York Foundation d. Eaton/Patriots when Blinded Bobby decks Curtis Thompson; (WWW/NON-TITLE) Steiner d. Luger; (COLUMBUS) Steiner d. Curtis Hughes. Rick slams Harley Race after. Luger ambushes Rick but Scott saves. DRAW. [MAIN EVENT]: Madusa Miceli d. Lelani Kai; (WCW MAG) Same as WCW; Steiner d. Rick Thames; (ROSS REPORT) Jim w. York Foundation; (VIDEO) Big Van Vader; Hammer d. Boss; (WCW 6-MAN TITLE) Yorks d. Zenk/Rhodes/Josh when Taylor bashes Josh w. laptop after Terry mistakenly opens up Rich w. computer. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(WWF/SYN) - [CHALLENGE]: Legion of Doom d. Barry Horowitz/Ben Jordan; Berserker d. Alan Martin; Bossman d. Roger Miller; Repo Man d. Rock Werner; (SURVIVOR SERIES REPORT) Randy Savage asks to replace Sid Justice; (BARBER SHOP) Beefcake with Flair S.S. team; Undertaker d. Kerry Von Erich. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

[SUPERSTARS]: {OPEN} Justice pleas for Savage to be reinstated; Jake Roberts d. Eric Freedom; (UPDATE) Mountie injures Hart; Virgil d. Steve Dupree; (FEATURE) Repo Man; (PTW) Davey Boy shoulderbreakers Slick; Warlord d. Brad Kraemer; (FEATURE) Slaughter at Statue of Liberty; Flair d. Jim Neidhart, who is helped out but Beverly Bros. attack him in aisle; Beverlys d. Mike Rossen/Dan Robbins; (S.S. REPORT) Same as WC; Undertaker d. Major Yates. RESTHOLD-PLUS.

(IWF) - Lou Perez d. Mike Dibacco; Stomper d. John Boyd; Bad Boys/Rick Diamond vs. Dynamite Express/Caribbean Kid (finish ??); Possessor d. Terry Davis; (SEG) Chubby Mo Cool imports Al Hardeman; Thunder & Lightning d. Java Roop/Tom Sawyer; Mondo Kleen d. Joe Cruz. RESTHOLD.

LINES OF THE WEEK

1. Scott Anthony, ESPN: "Policeman pulled me over and goes, 'Don't you know this is a one-way street?' I said, 'I was only going one way.' He said, 'Didn't you see the arrows?' I said, 'I didn't even see the Indians.'" 2. Lightning Kid, ESPN, to Craig Johnson: "I figured out who you look like. Remember the banjo player in the movie DELIVERANCE?" 3. Eddie Gilbert, ESPN, to Johnson: "Craig, you need to be elevated from time to time. In fact every time you look at those Hooter's girls, you look elevated." 4. Steven DeTruth, PWTW: "WCW stated that Paul E. Dangerously was suspended for 'philosophical differences.' Yep, and the Pope is Jewish." 5. DeTruth, PWTW: "Ron (Simmons) brought with him the greatest liability known to man: Dusty Rhodes." 6. Jim Ross, PH, on Bobby Eaton: "He's like wrestling Harpo Marx. He doesn't talk--just makes noises." 7. Ross, PH: "Later today, Bobby will join forces with the Patriots--without Victor Klam." 8. Arn Anderson, PH: "I understand Barry Windham has a second career. He's out in Las Vegas propped up as a one-armed bandit." 9. DeTruth, PWTW: "There's a fungus among us and his name is Eric Embry. He is without a doubt, the most vile, the grossest, the most disgusting wrestler on the planet. But I kinda like him." 10. DeTruth, PWTW, on Cactus Jack/Abdullah: "If you guys ever need some ring entrance music, may I suggest, 'Still Crazy After All These Years?'"

11. DeTruth, PWTW: "I wonder what WCW maniac thought of putting an electric chair in a wrestling ring." 12. Tony Schiavone, WWW: "I have to believe one time, one year Cactus Jack had a plate put in that head. Maybe for part of the

brain." 13. DeTruth, PWTW: "Let's go back to a time when pro wrestling was young and Chic Donovan was just middle-aged." 14. Bobby Heenan, PTW, on Santana's matador hat: "I bet you could sell that thing to Okerlund for 20 bucks. He could use some hair." 15. Anthony, ESPN: "Shut up, Hudson, I don't make fun of your hair. Of course, if you had any hair, I might." 16. Johnson/Hudson, MLW, on Falcone: (CJ) "What's in the case?" (SH) "If it's a fiddle, I hope he plays 'Orange Blossom Special.'" (CJ) "I don't believe The Family paid for violin lessons." 17. Johnson, MLW, on Skandor Akbar: "If I had a teacher like that, I'd have dropped out." 18. Roddy Piper, SOW, to Vince McMahon: "You probably believed Judge Thomas." 19. McMahon, SOW: "Steve Dupree looks like he should be playing for ZZ Top." 20. Heenan, PTW, on Sgt. Slaughter: "He keeps talking about he wants to see his country. Go Greyhound if you want to see the country."

21. Michael St. John, WMC, on SuperTeam: "This is a real TRAVIS-ty." 22. Missy Hyatt, PH: "(Rick) Steiner might order milk at a cocktail party." 23. Heenan, PTW: "El Matador's family had a rough life. They lost everything in the stock market. A truck ran over his dad's cow." 24. Jim Cornette/Joe Pedicino, LPWA: (JC) "How come more people call the Hotline on the nights the Louisville Slugger's not on?" (JP) "We learned a long time ago not to offend the people who call us."

STRONGEST COMMENTS - 1. DeTruth, PWTW: "The day Bill Kazmaier becomes a good wrestler, Dusty Rhodes will do a good sit-up." 2. Larry Zbyszko, WWW, on being tag champ: "It's like watching your ex-wife and her boyfriend getting into a car wreck and dying." 3. Lawler, WMC: "Bill (Dundee) and I are not the best of friends but we are the best partners you're ever gonna see." 4. Schiavone, WWW, on Cactus: "Yes, he's a nut." 5. Lawler, WMC: "More people have come to see me at the Mid-South Coliseum than any other act. I'm talking about Elvis Presley and the Beatles."

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - 1. Anthony/Johnson, ESPN: (SA) "Where is Reno Riggins from? (CJ) "Las Vegas." (SA) "Why isn't his name Las Vegas Riggins?" 2. Heenan, PTW, to Tenryu: "Does the name Charlie Chan ring a bell?"

NICKNAMES OF THE WEEK - 1. THE ONE-MAN POSSE (Scott Anthony on himself). 2. THE PALM BEACH HEADACHE (Hudson on Anthony). 3. FONDUE (Heenan on Tenryu). 4. TOWER OF POWER (Flair on Warlord).

PASSWORD OF THE WEEK - Lawler, FICTITIAL: "I knew Superman was a FICTITIAL character."

BEST PICTURES - 1. WWW, Cactus Jack snatching chair from fan to bash Sting. 2. WWW, Sting flying off top rope onto a trash can-covered Cactus. 3. ESPN, Gilbert yelling to Craig Johnson as he gives Stranger thumb-to-throat. 4. WCW PRO, Arn smashing Windham w. belt. 5. MLW, Akbar's expression when Falcone loses. 6. WWW, Closeup of Cactus eye-gouge. 7. WWW, Cactus hitting self w. chair after chair hits rope. 8. PTW, Tenryu dumping Chinese fast-food on Heenan's head. 9. ESPN, Gilbert standing on box for show open next to Johnson.

ALL-CLICHE TEAM - 1. Hudson, MLW: "...clean as a whistle." 2. Ken Resnick, LPWA: "...what goes around, comes around." 3. Resnick, LPWA: "...turnabout fair play."

BLOOPER AWARD - Bob Caudle, SAPW, for calling DDT a neckbreaker.

DREADED GLITCH AWARD - IWF, joining 6-man match late and not showing finish.

(Boo Awards on page 6)

Will J.J. Return?

FLAIR TO SPORT NEW WWF MANAGER

STAMFORD CT----Reports circulating from Titan Sports were centering around the possible return of J.J. Dillon as Ric Flair's manager Monday night at tapings in Utica NY.

Bobby Heenan asked two weeks ago to come off the road as Flair's manager for undisclosed reasons. Jimmy Hart has been subbing in the role but is not expected to handle Flair on a permanent basis.

Dillon left World Championship Wrestling, Inc., to become a WWF road agent/creative committee member in 1989 after handling the Four Horsemen, including Flair.

MORE ON HEARINGS: The Florida House focused heavily on WWF cards where Sid Justice has been advertised as appearing, well after his injury was known. Committee on Regulated Industries staff member Janet Clark says no-shows have been the biggest complaint from fans.

WCW, TOO: Turner's people sent no lobbyist but testimony centered around a July card in Tallahassee, 10 days after Ric Flair was fired. Barry Windham was hurt and Lex Luger didn't appear, yet all three were billed.

TITAN'S TALKER: WWF hired prominent Florida lobbyist Jim Tillman to handle its case. Superstar Billy Graham did not send a statement on the advice of his lawyers but tapes of some of his past TV appearances were sent to the committee.

EXPATRIOTS?: It was kill the Patriots night at WCW syndie tapings last Tuesday. The Pistols took their U.S. tag belts, plus Curtis and Todd were each squashed by Rick Rude in singles bouts.

RUDELY YOURS: Rude and Paul E. Dangerously were over big before a small crowd in Gainesville. But Rude came out sporting a belt, which is a surprising giveaway he'll take the U.S. belt from Sting next Tuesday.

OTHER BOUTS: An Arn Anderson/Steve Austin vs. Dustin Rhodes/Bobby Eaton signaled an Eaton turn. Jeanie Clarke disappeared early on. Later, Eaton/Austin teamed against Pillman/Zenk and Paul E. led the heels.

SUBMIT OR SURRENDER: In more of this continuing series, Curtis Thompson faced Larry Zbyszko. Others on the tapings: Pillman-Richard Morton, Van Hammer-Thomas Rich, Hammer-Anderson and the debut of the team of Diamond Stud and Diamond Dallas Page (who wrestled).

ANOTHER DEBUT: Awesome Kong, late of Memphis, debuted for WCW. Gary Cappetta mistakenly called him Awesome Pong.

THE NEW JOBBERS: A new WCW crew had names like Mean Mark Canterbury, Peter Dumas (billed from Athens, Greece with Italy on his tights) and Gentleman Jim Luntz.

DARK TIME: Non-taped events included a Lex Luger/Cactus Jack win over Pillman/Tom Zenk and Global's

Handsome Stranger lost a tryout to Mike Graham under his real name of Mark Bagwell.

COMING BACK: EMLL LUCHA LIBRE was skedded to return to Galavision Sunday, which signals an end to hostilities in the labor camp.

TRAGIC END: Lucha wrestlers are mourning the death of Gran Davies, 51, a referee who died after a match last week involving Konnan. He was the ref involved in the angle which cost Konnan EMLL's top belt.

TRYING OUT: Global's Chris Walker gets a WWF tryout this week but he's in good with GWF if he isn't hired.

NICK COMES HOME: Nick Busich flew home to Atlanta Sunday. He wrote Titan to say he'll fulfill all commitments through SURVIVOR SERIES but wants out.

CLOSED-CIRCUIT CORNER: Shohel Baba's final of his Real World tag team tournament will be shown in 50 closed-circuit spots in Japan Dec. 6. It's the most extensive circulation of any Japanese show ever.

ON THE BILL: The playoffs open with: Mitsuhashi Misawa/Kawada vs. Terry Gordy/Steve Williams; Baba/Andre the Giant vs. Kimala/Abdullah the Butcher; Joel Deaton/Billy Black vs. Kenta Kobashi/Tyoshi Kikuchi; Dan Kroffat/Doug Furnas vs. Johnny Ace/Sonny Beach; Jumbo Tsuruta/Akira Taue vs. Stan Hansen/Danny Spivey.

JEFF'S CHANGE: Saturday on WMC harkened the start of an apparent Jeff Jarrett turn. He and Robert Fuller lost the USWA tag belts to Doug Masters/Bart Sawyer, so the team split. Jeff said he'd always admired Jerry Lawler and how Lawler had taught him what he knows but he's seeking Jerry's belt. He then used a chain to defeat The Scorpion.

NATE'S NOTES: Nate the Rat (Nathaniel Whitlock) did a seg with three white rats and said he's bringing in The Gravedigger to go after Lawler. Nate called one of the three rats "Vincent."

WHERE'S THE COPYRIGHT?: Jeff Gaylord and a masked black wrestler came out Saturday as Billy Travis' SuperTeam and each had on blue Superman outfits, complete with the "S" logo. I'd like to know whether Warner Brothers or DC Comics gave the okay for that.

MONDAY IN MEMPHIS: Lawler & Bill Dundee faced the SuperTeam; Eric Embry (who regained the Southern belt on TV after losing it to Tom Prichard last week) met Kimala; Masters/Sawyer put up the tag belts vs. Fuller/Jimmy Valiant; Jarrett vs. Tony Anthony; Prichard vs. Tony Falk; and Travis vs. Freezer Thompson.

NO POWER: LPWA tapes at Jackson TN's Oman Arena Dec. 1 minus Terri Power and Reggie Bennett. Both will be in Japan. That disappoints WBBJ-TV's FRIDAY NIGHT WRESTLING PARTY host Churnin' Charlie (Charlie Davis), who wanted to take them to Tremors nightclub.

ICWA IN TAMPA: The new Sportatorium group played to 225 Thursday. Pat Tanaka (turning face) won the "world" light heavy title from Jim Backlund. Dick Slater d. Buggy McGraw and Long Riders d. Terminator/Master Blaster.

KEVIN'S QUEST: Kevin Sullivan faces Tommy Starr in a Dec. 7 Tampa show at American Legion Post 139.

MATWATCH

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RATINGS
RAP

Prime Time Takes Dive

WCW TOPS A 3; COASTS TO SIXTH WIN

Benefiting from an early bitter cold in the East and Midwest, viewers were driven inside to power WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING to a 3.1 rating for a runaway sixth win in seven weeks in the Nielsen cable ratings race.

The WCW Saturday show scored a 6.2 per cent share of audience in its 6-7:35 p.m. (EST) time period Nov. 2 to win the ratings by a full half-point.

WWF ALL-AMERICAN WRESTLING came out of its doldrums for a 30% increase Nov. 3 to finish in the runner-up slot with a 2.6/6.4.

WCW MAIN EVENT was up 4% to a 2.4/4.3, led by a York Foundation-Zenk/Rhodes/Josh matchup.

The major story of the week in weekly episodic TV is the 1.9 posted by PRIME TIME WRESTLING (see *THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES*). PTW, with guest shots from its second-line performers and Genichiro Tenryu, only registered 2.7 per cent of the audience, another all-time low for the USA series. PTW was only a nose above the 1.7/6.7 for POWER HOUR.

CABLE

Week Ending Nov. 4	Rating/Share	Total Homes	Year Ago
WCW World Champ. (TBS 11/2)	3.1/6.2	1.79 million	2.7/5.3
WWF All-American (USA 11/3)	2.6/6.4	1.51 million	2.4/6.3
WCW Main Event (TBS 11/3)	2.4/4.3	1.38 million	2.6/4.6
WWF Prime Time (USA 11/4)	1.9/2.7	1.10 million	2.3/3.6
WCW Power Hour (TBS 11/2)	1.7/6.7	975,000	1.3/5.2

1991 Annual

MATWATCH: THE FINAL CHAPTER

We're working on some MATWATCH memories for our 1991 and last annual, MATWATCH: THE FINAL CHAPTER, which will be published in late February.

We'll review how MATWATCH began, and among key previously untold stories: how we uncovered the split between Eddie Gilbert and the old Continental Wrestling Federation, some cases of telephone tampering against MATWATCH and how a TV performer made some rather amusing threats against us.

In addition: the top 15 TV news stories of 1991, the annual Wrestling Broadcasting System and a naming of our 1991 MATWATCH MAN OF THE YEAR.

PRICE: \$13 (U.S./CANADA), \$21 (OVERSEAS).

Check, cash, or money order to: MATWATCH, 16 ROBIN HOOD LANE, JACKSON TN 38305.

BOO AWARD - 1. USWA/WMC, for using Gaylord & partner as Super Team with SUPERMAN "S" logos on outfits. Did they get copyright approval from Warner Bros. or DC Comics? 2. Heenan, PTW, for asking Santana, "Those aren't Sammy Davis Jr.'s old tap shoes, are they?"

MARY LOU GANTNER

(Continued from Page 2)

Legislators were told of a man spending \$1,000 a month on anti-depressant drugs. "He became so abusive, the woman he loved once jumped from a second-floor window to get away from him," said Ms. Gantner.

Lawmakers were shown a videotape of an edition of NBC's REAL LIFE WITH JANE PAULEY, in which the Gantner tale was spotlighted. Gantner's sister nearly died of shock and required extensive counseling after Ed's death.

Ms. Gantner explained why she felt compelled to tell her story. "I was driving to work a few months after Ed's death," said Ms. Gantner. "I was listening to a radio show in which someone said, 'If steroids are so bad, then where are all the bodies?' I got really upset because I buried one of them."

A bill to regulate pro wrestling, including requirement of drug testing, including for steroids, will be presented to the full Florida House of Representatives Dec. 10.

Hogan-Flair Shifted To Texas Pay Card

STAMFORD CT----Plans have been drastically altered for the Dec. 3 WWF pay-per-view card from San Antonio, which originally was to feature a Hulk Hogan-Undertaker rematch from the SURVIVOR SERIES.

Hogan will now take on former WCW and self-proclaimed "real" world champion Ric Flair in the main event of the \$14.95 supplementary pay show. Insiders say other matches will change for the card but at deadline, no specifics were available other than the topline.

Unclear is whether the Hogan-Undertaker event, which speculation has had Undertaker (Mark Callaway) winning the WWF belt Nov. 27, will change in focus. The recent torn bicep injury suffered by Sid Justice (Sid Eudy) leaves open potential major changes for Titan Sports all the way to WRESTLEMANIA VIII.

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